

RECYCLING NEWS



* Spring 2003 *

METAL

Recycling Works in Wisconsin

Wisconsin's recycling program is based on a series of landfill bans with responsibility for recycling delegated to local units of government and a state grants program to assist local governments in their recycling efforts. Pat Walsh, in his article "The DNR-Extension Recycling Partnership" reminds us how the recycling program in Wisconsin today is the product of a grassroots effort that started back in the 1980s. Today, 98% of Wisconsites remain committed to recycling, and recycling is practiced in every corner of the state.

How well are we doing?

Wisconsin is recognized as a leader among states for its recycling program. Our unique approach to recycling - statewide bans with responsibility delegated to the local level - is the envy of other states on a number of counts. First, our recycling rates are impressive. The average Wisconsonite generates 4.5 pounds of trash each day and recycles 1.7 pounds of trash on that day, compared to national averages of 4.6 pounds of trash and 1.4 pounds of trash recycled¹. Our overall recycling rate is 33%, compared to the national average of 30%. When you add in yard waste composted on site, the overall "diversion" rate, the percentage of trash generated by the residential and the non-residential sectors that doesn't' go to landfills because of recycling, rises to 36%. Second, our program is simple in concept and easy to understand, and is the same no matter where you are in Wisconsin. Thirdly, The bans reinforce the view that recyclable materials are a commodity with

economic value, not a waste.

The table PER on page 2 shows the PA amount of recyclable materials reported as collected by RUs for the period 1997-2001, in GLASS tons. At the bottom of the table, we report "per capita 95 bans" and "per capita total", in pounds per person. We separate out collection of "95 ban" materials because RUs are required to annually report to DNR materials collected subject to the 1995 ban (with the exception of optional collection and reporting for waste tires, plastics 3-7 and polystyrene foam). Reporting for the other materials listed is optional, and therefore likely incomplete. The amount of "95 ban" materials collected by the average person each year has remained fairly stable over the past four years, fluctuating between 146.7 lbs and 148.7 lbs.

There are other success stories we would like to share. We have diverted over 700,000 tons of waste from landfills each year because of recycling, avoiding landfill expansions and construction of the equivalent of one landfill every 1-5 years. We estimate direct employment in the state by recycling-related firms is between 30,000 and 31,000 jobs, generating almost \$6 billion a year in sales and over \$1 billion in wages. Indirect and induced impacts would show an even greater economic benefit to the



located in Wisconsin. Greatest growth in recent years has occurred in recycling services for computers, bulbs, construction and demolition waste (C&D), and batteries. We have also had a net positive impact on our environment. Compared to a no-recycling scenario, recycling generates a net energy savings in air emissions, except for carbon dioxide from biomass fuel sources.

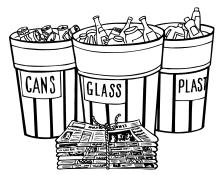
We can always do better, and we would like your comments and ideas of how we can improve. But we shouldn't lose sight of what we have accomplished and think in terms of what we can learn from our past to make the future better.

In This Issue

- * Recyclable Materials Reported ... p. 2
- * Recycling Programs Available p. 3
- **★** DNR-Extension Partnership p. 4
- * Harsdorf & Plouff Seek Oil Study...p. 6



Recyclable Materials Collection Reported by Wisconsin RUs (in tons)



Recyclable Materials	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Newspaper (ONP)	137,609	137,818	145,579	137,266	141,516
Magazines OMG)	18,947	17,413	20,418	18,473	20,333
Corrugated Cardboard	42,544	46,055	47,328	37,662	40,544
Office Paper	8,736	2,531	3,072		
Mixed newspaper & magazines	50,230	47,995	37,227	54,543	53,128
Tires	10,329	9,002	8,693	8,530	6,338
Aluminum Cans	5,515	6,656	6,672	6,299	6,249
Steel Cans	22,149	21,749	22,058	21,477	22,134
Glass Containers	74,753	71,947	77,471	78,031	78,638
Plastic Container	22,464	23,858	21,738	22,714	22,544
Co-mingled Containers	2,665	3,023	2,416	2,638	4,061
Polystyrene Foam	297	137	276	25	19
95 ban materials reported as a total	3,251	475	3,458	6,406	4,341
Subtotal Tons ('95 banned material)	399,489	388,659	396,406	394,064	399,845
Appliances	10,566	12,276	13,415	12,040	12,624
Batteries (lead acid)	567	675	788	543	572
Used Oil	4,446	4,707	4,353	4,008	3,767
Yard Waste	280,197	288,595	277,666	258,796	260,028
Subtotal Tons (All banned material)	695,265	694,912	692,628	669,451	676,836
Scrap Metal		4	9,931	10,540	13,114
Used Clothing/textiles		0	580	262	189
Miscellaneous Recyclables	64,529	83,434	47,410	37,143	26,264
Residential Mixed Paper (MWP)	7,144	15,785	13,055	18,853	9,610
Total Tons Reported	766,938	794,135	763,604	736,249	726,013
Population	5,266,213	5,297,672	5,332,666	5,363,675	5,401,906
Per capita 95 bans	151.72	146.73	148.67	146.94	148.04
Per capita total of all materials collected	291.27	299.81	286.39	274.53	268.80
		95 bans as % of total 55.07 yard waste as % of total 35.82			

Beginning with year 2000, Office Paper tons were included in the Mixed ONP/OMG category. Source: WDNR Recycling Database; information submitted by RUs on annual report form 4400-182. Population data from DOA annual estimates made in July of the subsequent year.

New Recycling Programs Available to Enhance Responsible Unit Effectiveness and Efficiency

There are two new recycling programs that Responsible Units might want to take advantage of - the "Pilot" program and the Recycling Efficiency Incentive Grant program.

Pilot Program

The "Pilot" program allows responsible units flexibility in the choice of materials they wish to recycle in their local program. The new provisions in the rule provide a list of materials from which a Pilot program participant can choose. This list includes a number of materials in addition to those materials that the 1995 bans required to be recovered from solid waste going to landfills. Under this pilot program, Responsible Units may choose not to recycle the 1995 "banned" materials, and instead substitute any of the alternative materials included in the list.

The program is defined in ss. NR 544.20 to 544.27, Wis. Admin. Code, which can be accessed through the Recycling website: http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/wm/information/wiacssr.htm. The application deadline to participate in this program has been extended to May 30, 2003. Please call Cynthia Moore, Recycling Team Leader, at (608) 267-7550 if you are interested in learning more about this opportunity.

Recycling Efficiency Incentive Grant Program

The Recycling Efficiency Incentive Grants (REI) program provides Responsible Units the opportunity to receive an additional grant — over and above their basic recycling grant — in recognition for certain acts to improve efficiency, defined in ch. NR 549, Wis. Admin. Code. Grant awards will be given for:

- * consolidation (the formal merger of at least 2 Responsible Units into a single Responsible Unit) or
- * cooperative agreements among Responsible Units.

Access to the rule and to a number of guidance documents on how to apply for this grant, are available at the Community Financial Assistance Bureau web page: http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/cfa/grants/Recycle/efficiency.html.

A total of \$1.9 million was available for grants in calendar year 2003 (the application deadline was April 15, 2003, and checks will be mailed by June 30, 2003). Funding for future years is dependent upon approval of the appropriation in the next state budget. We are hopeful that funding will continue at the current level.

We are encouraged by the level of interest in this new grant program and by the extent to which Responsible Units have been cooperating on mutually beneficial recycling projects. Examples of projects we have heard about include joint operations for waste oil collection, yard waste collection, computer collection, educational efforts, drop off centers, and joint contracts with a MRF. We have also heard about



discussions on potential consolidations (formal mergers) to enhance local program overall efficiency.

Pending approval for continued funding for the REI grant program in 2004, the DNR will be combining applications for REI grants with applications for basic recycling grants. Those applications will need to be postmarked to the DNR in October 2003. We are also considering hosting regional workshops during the summer of 2003 to explain the new grants program and refamiliarize people with the basics of the effective recycling program. Keep an eye out for more on this!

Recycling News Editor: Dan Fields, 608/266-5334 Department of Natural Resources,

CE/6, P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services, and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have any questions, please write to Equal Opportunity Office, Department of Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

This publication is available in alternative format (large print, Braille, audio tape etc.) upon request. Please call 608/266-2111 for more information.

April 2003

The DNR-Extension Recycling Partnership – Two decades of working together to help Wisconsin communities



By Pat Walsh, Extension Solid and Hazardous Waste Education Center

Establishing community recycling programs in Wisconsin has been so successful that some might believe recycling has always been a major part of Wisconsin's waste management system. In fact, it has taken many years of hard work by many people to build support for recycling and to establish cost effective, convenient, and efficient recycling programs statewide. With the state's recycling bill recently passing its ten year anniversary, it's a good time to look back and celebrate how far Wisconsin has come.

Folks like Millie Zantow in Sauk County and Rueben Damm in Columbia County started promoting recycling in the early 1980's after trips abroad showed them that community recycling was a good idea. At the time, almost all Wisconsin waste was landfilled. Madison had a curbside recycling program (which started with newspaper in 1968), but recycling was not offered in most smaller communities. The efforts of Millie. Rueben and others like John Reindl prompted many small Wisconsin communities to investigate how recycling might work, starting first with drop off centers and moving

toward curbside pickup. Early successful programs in small communities like Prarie du Sac, Fitchburg, and Glenwood City, and in Columbia County showed that community size was not a deterrent to successful recycling.

Around this time, the DNR hired John Reindl (and later Kate Cooper) as statewide recycling coordinators and I was hired by UW-Extension as a solid waste specialist. We traveled together extensively around Wisconsin, explaining to local officials and community leaders how to set up recycling and composting programs. We jointly planned and sponsored an annual Wisconsin waste conference, which usually drew 100-200 participants. As more recycling programs started statewide, we shared their experiences with others through the DNR and through faculty in county Extension offices, who spread the information locally. We collaborated with fine organizations like the Wisconsin Counties



Solid Waste Management Association (WCSWMA) and the Associated Recyclers of Wisconsin (AROW) in promoting integrated waste management principles.

Statewide support for recycling grew throughout the 1980's, culminating in the passage of a statewide comprehensive recycling bill in 1990 (1989 Wisconsin Act 335). Interest in recycling and requests for information spiked, with Kate Cooper and I surviving a hectic year until new recycling specialists allocated to DNR and Extension in the recycling bill were hired. We all began working toward helping communities meet the bill's ban on landfilling recyclables, which was phased in through 1995. State monetary support to establish local programs was crucial to implementation.

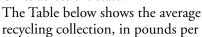
The rest, as they say, is history. Wisconsin is now one of the nation's leading recycling states. Surveys show 98% of Wisconsinites are committed to recycling. Recycling in Wisconsin has been a real grass-roots success story. While market stability is a continuing challenge, everyone in Wisconsin should feel good about the progress that has been made.



Average Collection of Recyclable Materials by Responsible Units 1997 – 2001

(Pounds Per Capita)

Have you wanted to compare how much your Responsible Unit recycles, per person, with other Responsible Units across the state?





person, for three Responsible Unit population size categories. The data was obtained from the Annual Report forms

GLASS

CANS

(Form 4400-182) submitted by Responsible Units for the period 1997 –2001. Amounts in the Table are reported in pounds per person, based on the total tonnage reported as collected for each year. The data were aggre-

gated by RU population size category and divided by the total reported population for that size category.



(olumn 1 RU population – population size category (per the DOA statistics) <5,000 – all RUs with a population of less than 5,000 5,000 to 50,000 – all RUs with a population between 5,000 and 50,000

>50,000 - all RUs with more than 50,000 population

Column 2 Report Year, the calendar year for which data were reported

(olum) Nbr RUs; the number of RUs in the population size category

Column 4 Total Pop – the total population in this size category (sum of the population of all RUs in this size category)

(olumn) Figure 1 – average collection, expressed in pounds per person, for all materials reported in Figure 1 of the Annual Report (newspaper, magazines, corrugated cardboard, plastic/glass/aluminum/steel containers, polystyrene foam)

Column 6 Figure 2 – average collection, expressed in pounds per person, for all materials reported in Figure 2 of the Annual Report (major appliances, lead acid batteries, waste tires, waste oil, yard waste)

Column 7 Figure 3 – average collection, expressed in pounds per person, for all materials reported in Figure 3 of the Annual Report (scrap metal, mixed residential paper, textiles and other miscellaneous recyclables)

Column 8 The average collection, expressed in pounds per person, of all material (sum of tons collected in Figure 1, 2, and 3).

l	2	3	4	5	6	1	8
				Aver	age Lbs per p	erson	
RU Population	Report Year	Nbr RUs	Total Pop	Figure 1	Figure 2	Figure 3	Totals
< 5,000	1997	932	1203029	140	46	45	231
	1998	926	1193617	140	54	15	210
	1999	914	1190262	143	42	47	232
	2000	912	1194795	145	41	32	218
	2001	899	1185664	143	45	9	197
5,000 - 50,000	1997	135	2061488	163	125	23	311
	1998	139	2102361	160	138	65	363
	1999	140	2038732	162	130	21	313
	2000	142	2061506	167	111	18	295
	2001	148	2153058	163	104	19	286
> 50,000	1997	14	1947752	131	153	31	316
	1998	14	1955906	128	140	25	293
	1999	16	2066426	131	143	24	299
	2000	16	2074409	123	134	29	285
	2001	16	2077486	129	139	23	290

Source: DNR Recycling database; data submitted to DNR by RUs on DNR Form 4400-182

April 2003 5

Harsdorf and Plouff Seek Study on Oil Recyling

Senator Sheila
Harsdorf (R-River
Falls) and Representative Joe
Plouff (DMenomonie)
have made a
request to the
Joint Legislative
Council that would create a committee to explore the use and
disposal of oil filters and other oilabsorbent materials.

The proposed study is the result of recommendations made by the Governor's Council on Recycling, set up by former Governor Tommy Thompson and based on legislation authored by Senator Harsdorf when she served in the State Assembly in 1998.

"A study committee has the advantage of removing the partisan politics and allowing for various public and private interests to reach an agreement that will benefit everyone," said Rep. Plouff. "While researching this issue with Senator Harsdorf and her staff, we have come across studies that suggest that

groundwater contamination from oil absorbent materials in landfills is a very real threat to the public."

Plouff and Harsdorf have been working with CRI Recycling Service, Inc. of Woodville to explore ways to increase the recycling of oil from waste products that are currently being dumped into landfills. CRI has developed a new process that can remove petroleum products from various absorbent materials and recycle them for other uses.

"We now have the technology and means available to make recycling oil filters and oil absorbents relatively convenient and easy," said Harsdorf. "By taking cooperative steps with businesses and environmental interests, steps can be made to manage waste better. Every effort should be made to recycle products that, when disposed of improperly, are detrimental to our environment."

Harsdorf and Plouff believe that the Governor's Council on Recycling serves as a model for the new committee. Dan Meyer, who chaired that commission, found it very useful as a way to promote new public policy.

"This council's task force has worked hard to put together a set of recommendations needed to improve recycling efforts, said Meyer. "It is a great example of private and public partnership. We applaud folks in the private sector who are willing to meet the challenge of proper disposal of oil absorbents and oil filters and look forward to continued legislative involvement needed to make this happen."



Used oil fact sheet for businesses and institutions updated

Updated fact sheet available online at: www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/publications/hazard/sw_135.pdf

New Waste Reduction and Recycling Guide for Apartment Owners

Last year we asked Responsible Units what communication tools they needed. As a result of their input, we've revised our old *Apartment Recycling Handbook*. In the spirit of source reduction, we pared the original 84-page guide down to a svelte six-page fact sheet. The worksheets in the old handbook are gone, but the critical content and case studies remain. Use the new Waste Reduction and Recycling: A Guide for Owners of Apartments &

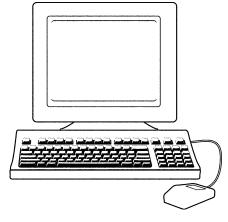


Other Multi-family Dwellings (CE-284) to encourage landlords and building mangers to improve recycling in their facilities. Multi-family dwellings still lag behind single-family units in recycling and their owners need some help. Please use the order form in this newsletter to request copies for distribution in your community.

Council on Recycling Delivers Recommendations

The Council on Recycling delivered their recommendations on recycling computers, computer peripherals and televisions to the Governor, DNR and Commerce secretaries and selected legislators on February 12, 2003. The major points of the recommendations are:

- * Undertake a study to determine the volume of material, infrastructure capacity, service providers, current practices and awareness of current laws.
- * Support the National Electronic Product Stewardship Institute's dialogue with stakeholders. That dialogue is an attempt to reach a national consensus on reuse/recycling of electronics.
- * Develop procurement guidelines for computers, computer peripherals and televisions.



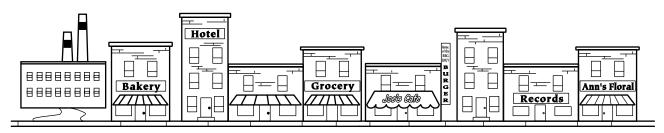
- * Develop a system to divert computers, computer peripherals and televisions from landfills in Wisconsin with the cost of diversion built into the price of the product.
- * Phase in a ban on computers, computer peripherals and televisions from landfills in Wisconsin.

- Foster a voluntary certification program for processors and handlers, and
- * Seek administrative rules to ensure compliance if voluntary certification is not successful.

For more information contact: Dan fields, DNR, (608) 266-5334 or at dan.fields@dnr.state.wi.us or go to the DNR web site at: http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/wm/recycle/council/corelecrec.pdf

Council on Recycling on DNR web page

Minutes, Agendas and reports from the Council on Recycling can be found on the DNR web site at: http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/wm/recycle/council/



Production and Reduction: Build a Better Business for a Better Tomorrow

You asked for it, and now you're going to get it. Based on your requests, the DNR is developing a new poster to encourage businesses to increase their waste reduction, recycling, and pollution prevention efforts. The poster will give you a cut-away view of the "Bike Works",

and show you the environmentally friendly practices this company has adopted in their factory, office, store, cafeteria, day care center, and grounds. Commercial recycling has declined in Wisconsin, and you can use this poster to help stimulate local businesses. Our new business

poster was in the December issue of the Wisconsin Natural Resources Magazine. Didn't get the magazine? We have extra copies available. Use the order form in this newsletter to order publication CE-283.

April 2003 1

Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC) Announces Free Program

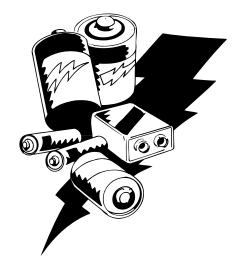
The Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corp. announced that any public agency that wishes to participate in its Charge Up to Recycle! battery recycling program may do so free of charge beginning in February, 2003.

Dunn County has taken advantage of the new program and is very impressed. Dunn County Solid Waste Coordinator George Hayducsko says "This is the easiest program I've ever been involved with." He said the information from RBRC is self-explanatory and the program is, most importantly, fully paid for. The only additional duties involve replacing and packing up the full boxes. "A few minutes a week" says Hayducsko. He urges other communities to go to the web site and sign up.

Highlights of the restructured program include the following:

- * RBRC will handle the collection of all small portable rechargeable batteries, including Nickel-Cadmium, Nickel Metal Hydride, Lithium Ion and Small Sealed Lead rechargeable batteries
- * RBRC will provide two- or fivebox collection kits at no cost each box holds approximately 40 pounds of rechargeable batteries and is valued at \$50
- * RBRC will pay for all shipping, materials, processing and recycling costs.

For more information on implementing a recycling program through a public agency, contact RBRC at 678-419-9990.



Publications - Spring 2003

The DNR provides free publications covering a variety of waste reduction and recycling topics. If you would like copies of any of the publications summarized in the Recycling News, please provide the information requested below and mail the folded form to DNR recycling Publications- WA/3. (Address on reverse)

Your Name:	Phone:	Phone:				
Organization Name:						
Address:	City/State:	Zip:				
Please indicate how many copies of	of each publication you wish to receive (note	the maximum quantity allowed				
Building Recycling Success: T	Tools to Educate and Inform. IE-150 (max 1/R	U)				
Recycling Facts & Figures Ci studies for 2000.	E-163. (max 10) Revised with updated statistic	cs using Franklin Associates, LTD				
Waste Reduction and Recycli	ng Publication request form, 8500-148 (max	10)				
CE-284 (max 200) Neu	cycling: A Guide for Owners of Apartments and ocling and Waste Reduction, CO-070b g and Waste Reduction, Spanish C)-070c	t Omer Hamily Ductures				
(N Managing Used Comput	•					
_	cycling in the Workplace, CE-278					
🐧 Greening the Lodging In						
(§) Recycling and Waste Red	uction at Convenience Stores, CE-280					
🔇 Special Events: Recycling	and Waste Management, CE-281					
🐧 Recycling and Waste Red	uction in the Restaurant Industry, CE-282					
Production and Reduction: I	Build a Better Business for a Better Tomorrow.	Poster CE-283 (max 200). New				
🐧 Yard Care: Do Your Sha	re, WA-073					
🐧 Home Composting: Reap	a Heap of Benefits, WA-072					
(Home Composting: The	Complete Composter, SW-182					

April 2003 9

Place
Postage
Here

DNR Recycling Publications - WA/3 P.O. Box 7921 Madison, WI 53707-7921

DNR Regional Recycling Contacts as of 04/03

Here is an updated list of DNR staff contacts for waste reduction and recycling along with the counties for which they are responsible. Please feel free to call with questions or to introduce yourself.

Regional Recycling Contact	Region Address	Counties Served
Marcy McGrath 920/492-5593, fax 920/492-5859 e-mail Amy.McGrath@dnr.state.wi.us	Northeast Region P.O. Box 10448 1298 Lombardi Ave. Green Bay, WI 54307-0448	Brown, Calumet, Door, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Marinette, Marquette, Menominee, Oconto, Outagamie, Shawano, Waupaca, Waushara, Winnebago
Paul Wiegner 715/839-5171, fax 715/839-6076 e-mail Paul.Wiegner@dnr.state.wi.us	West Central Region P.O. Box 4001 1300 Clairemont Ave Eau Claire, WI 54701	Buffalo, Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire, Jackson, Juneau, La Crosse, Monroe, Pepin, Pierce, St. Croix, Trempealeau, Vernon, Wood
Deb Pingel 715/359-4531, fax 715/355-5253 e-mail Deb.Pingel@dnr.state.wi.us	West Central Region 5301 Rib Mountain Dr. Wausau, WI 54401	Adams, Marathon, Portage
Jessica Maloney 608/275-3298, fax 608/275-3338 e-mail Jessica.Maloney@dnr.state.wi.us	South Central Region 3911 Fish Hatchery Road Fitchburg, WI 53711	Dane
Cynthia K. English 608/275-3240, fax 608/275-3338 e-mail Cynthia. English@dnr.state.wi.us	South Central Region 3911 Fish Hatchery Road Fitchburg, WI 53711	Green, Rock
Sherry Otto 715/365-8982, fax 715/365-8932 e-mail Sherry.Otto@dnr.state.wi.us	Northern Region 107 Sutliff Ave Rhinelander, WI 54501	Florence, Forest, Iron, Langlade, Lincoln, Oneida, Price, Taylor, Vilas
Robert Germer 715/635-4060, Fax 715/635-4105 e-mail Robert.Germer@dnr.state.wi.us	Northern Region 810 W. Maple St Spooner, WI 54801	Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Iron, Polk, Price, Rusk, Sawyer, Taylor, Washburn
Barb Palecek 920/387-7870, fax 920/387-7888 e-mail Barb.Palecek@dnr.state.wi.us	South Central Region N7725 Hwy 28 Horicon, WI 53032	Columbia, Dodge, Jefferson
James L. Bakken 608/935-1924, fax 608/935-9652 e-mail James.Bakken@dnr.state.wi.us	South Central Region 1500 N. Johns St. Dodgeville, WI 53533	Grant, Iowa, Lafayette, Richland, Sauk
Nancy Gloe 414/263-8369, fax 414/263-8483 e-mail Nancy.Gloe@dnr.state.wi.us	Southeast Region P.O. Box 12436 Milwaukee, WI 53212	Racine, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Waukesha
Liz Spaeth-Werner 414/263-8617, fax 414/263-8483 e-mail Elizabeth.Spaeth-Werner@dnr.state.wi.us	Southeast Region P.O. Box 12436 Milwaukee, WI 53212	Sheboygan, Washington, Ozaukee
Kendra Kennell 262/574-2141, fax 262/574-2117 e-mail Kendra.Kennell@dnr.state.wi.us	Southeast Region 141 NW Barstow St., Rm. 180 Waukesha, WI 53188	Walworth

April 2003

Department of Natural Resources
Bureau of Waste Management - WA/3
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921
Printed on Recycled Paper